ARKANSAS WEATHER AND CROP PROGRESS



*Harvesting Cotton and Soybeans and Planting Wheat

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RELEASED: October 25, 1999 3:00 p.m. Below normal temperatures were prevalent for the state this past week. Several areas had their first freezing temperatures of the season, particularly in the northern and western sections of the state. Light rainfall was recorded in many parts of the state, but all areas had below normal precipitation for the week. 6.0 days were suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture supplies were 15 percent very short, 36 percent short, 48 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. The main farming activities of the week included harvesting cotton and soybeans and planting wheat. The rice harvest was winding down. Other activities included preparing land for the planting of annual forages, land leveling, liming pastures, fields were being subsoiled and plowed.

CROPS: All crop harvests were winding down as weather conditions remained excellent for the remaining crops. Winter wheat seeding was well underway with some spotty stands. Spraying fields and pastures for armyworms were reported in the state. Tree fruit harvest was winding down.

LIVESTOCK: Livestock were reported in good condition. Many farmers were feeding supplemental hay early this year because of the drought like conditions. Cattle producers continued to market cattle, wean calves, fall calving, and pregnancy check spring bred cows. Cattle were given vaccinations, producers were also planning for Brucellosis vaccinations, treated for external parasites for insect control by dusting and ear tagging cattle. Fertilizer applications to pastures were also reported.

Crop Progress and Conditions

| Progress % | | | | Condition %1 | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| CROP Stage | Current Week | Previous Year | 5 Year Average | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| SORGHUM | | | | | | | | |
| Mature | 100 | 100 | 100 | | | | | |
| Harvested | 100 | 100 | 98 | | | | | |
| COTTON | | | | 1 | 10 | 41 | 35 | 13 |
| Harvested | 87 | 76 | 69 | | | | | |
| RICE | | | | | | | | |
| Harvested | 98 | 99 | 97 | | | | | |
| SOYBEANS | | | | 11 | 18 | 29 | 31 | 11 |
| Shedding | 86 | 91 | 83 | | | | | |
| Harvested | 59 | 59 | 50 | | | | | |
| CORN | | | | | | | | |
| Harvested | 100 | 100 | 100 | | | | | |
| WHEAT | | | | | | | | |
| Planted | 40 | 38 | 40 | | | | | |
| Emerged | 15 | 15 | 19 | | | | | |
| ALFALFA | | | | 8 | 26 | 33 | 33 | 0 |
| ОТН. НАҮ | | | | 13 | 34 | 36 | 17 | 0 |
| PASTURE | | | | 14 | 37 | 34 | 15 | 0 |

¹Condition published after at least 10% of crop has emerged, and continues until 90% of crop has been harvested.

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